

FD 868

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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BY (CARL F

1. Exercises were begun in the Jena-Rudolstadt-Erfurt area in the evening of 10 October. They were still in progress on 14 October. The following details were noted in connection with the exercises: 14 x 10 - man tents near Umpferstedt; one train, coming from Ohrdruf and unloaded at Jena, with about 45 T-34/85 tanks, and motor vehicles; 5 x 152 mm howitzers emplaced in the forest west of Mellingen; three trains, coming from the direction of Erfurt and unloaded in Mellingen, with about 30 T-34/85 tanks each; a train with three armored personnel carriers and 12 x 37 mm AA guns, coming from the direction of Berka and unloaded in Weimar; 30 tanks, 12 x 85 mm AA guns and motor vehicles moving from Weimar toward the autobahn; about 92 camouflaged tanks in Buchfart; and about 200 tanks near Berka. The training area was off limits.¹

2. An order of the Soviet transportation command was issued on 12 October modifying the plan for the assembly of shuttle trains at Jueterbog-Altes

Lager

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3. On 13 October, the Soviet transportation command ordered that three shuttle trains, each consisting of eight boxcars, were to be equipped with heating facilities by 16 October. Two of the trains were to be directed to Jueterbog-Altes Lager and the other to Neuruppin.
4. At 12:40 P.M. on 14 October, a train consisting of 49 boxcars with soldiers and three boxcars with kitchens passed through Frankfurt/Oder, en route from Cottbus to Kuestrin.⁴
5. No aircraft were observed on Brandenburg-Arado airfield on 10 October. Planes were also absent from Brandenburg-Briest airfield between 10 and 14 October.⁵

25X1 [] Comments:

1. Numerous motor vehicles were reported from the exercise area. Some were identified as belonging to the 8th Guards Army and the IV Artillery Corps, while others were ascribed to the 2nd and 6th AAA Divisions, the 31st AAA Division, the 4th Guards Mechanized Army, the 3rd Shock Army, the 6th Guards Tank Division, and the 9th Mechanized Division. Since there have been no indications that units other than those belonging to the 8th Guards Army and the IV Artillery Corps participated in the exercises, it is believed that deception maneuvers were employed in the field. [] Identification of the troops involved in the exercises has thus been made more difficult.

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3. These shuttle trains are used for the transporting of transferred personnel to the two stations.
 4. It is believed that this was the first transport of discharged troops to leave East Germany.
 5. It is believed that the ground-attack regiments from Brandenburg-Arado and Brandenburg-Briest, as in the case of the ground-attack regiments from Finsterwalde and Alt-Loennowitz, have been transferred to other fields for exercises. It is possible that these regiments were stationed in Altenburg, Brandis, Schkeuditz, Merseburg, and Erfurt-Bindersleben.

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